



JSM is our spiritual home. It is not just a space, but a familiar and safe place of prayer, comfort, spiritual healing and celebration. Are we building our church? Do we pray and help each other? We can help by welcoming people, singing well in choir and listening attentively to our Sunday school teachers! Let's make JSM feel like a real home for everyone.



Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:5



Mrs Edelweiss Ling

Hear Me When I Call

Own up to your sin

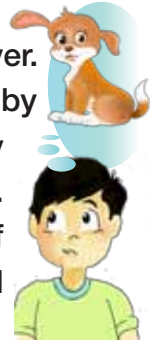
Psalm 51:10
Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.

King David was in deep repentance. He had committed adultery with Uriah's wife, Bathsheba. To hide his sin of adultery, he had Uriah killed in the battlefield. As a result of his sins, the child conceived with Bathsheba died



shortly after birth.

Have you been afraid of owning up to your sin? Take for instance you broke your mother's favourite vase. You were afraid she would be angry with you. So you told your mother that it was the pet dog that had accidentally knocked it over. Your mother punished the dog by locking it in a room. You felt sorry for the doggie and felt no peace. You know God will not be happy if we cover up our sins. You should turn to God and pray.



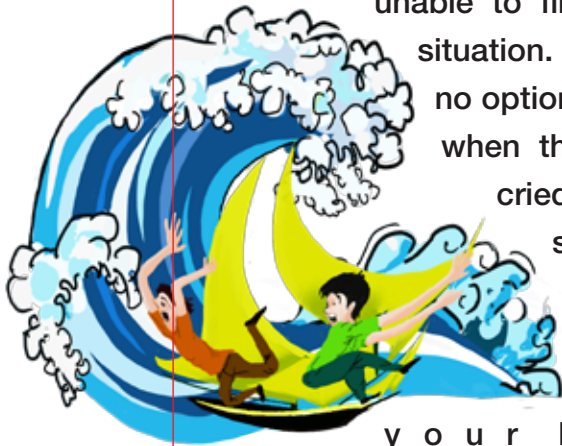
"Dear Heavenly Father, I have no peace. I have sinned against You. I should have told my mum the truth that it's me that had broken her favourite vase. I shouldn't have further lied to her that it was doggie that knocked it down... Please forgive me and help me to tell my mum the truth now. In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen"

by Mrs Rhoda Koo

Phrases

I have absolutely no idea what to do in this situation and am at my wit's end!!

At Wits End



Psalms 107:27 describes sailors caught in a storm, very distressed as they staggered like drunken men on the deck, which was rocking and rolling because of the huge waves. They were 'at their wits' end, unable to find a way out of their dire situation. However, were there really no options left? Verse 28 tells us that when the sailors, in their distress, cried to the Lord, He stilled the storm and brought everyone on the ship to safety. Have you ever been in a similar situation, trying your best to think of a solution to your problem, maybe almost giving up? Psalms 107:27 and 28 remind us that God is able to guide and lead us in every situation, no matter how impossible or difficult it may seem. We just have to rely less on ourselves and earnestly pray and wholeheartedly trust in the Lord to lead.

by Ms Grace Ee



They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end.

Psalms 107:27

Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses.

Psalms 107:28

GemSTORY

Dr Jonathan Tan's testimony

I attended Christian schools most of my life. I also went for Chinese services at a Methodist church and reluctantly attended school chapel. However, I was not saved, and only prayed to Jesus when I needed help during exams and important events.

My turning point came when I went to a non-Christian JC. I missed the messages and prayers. I started to seek God and visited my friends' churches. I did not find what I was looking for there.

During NS, someone invited me to JSM. The worship service was what I had been looking for! I actively sought God around this time and my life started changing. I stopped swearing and read the Bible frequently. For NS, I had a sailing trip for 2 weeks in the South China Sea. Back



then, there was no internet and I felt bored, so I just read my Bible and a Christian book. I could feel God's presence with me and felt no more lost or lonely. After that, I kept reading and attending services because I hungered for God's Word. I was particularly touched by Dr Spence's messages and encouragement when he was in Singapore. During a special meeting, he preached on Nehemiah and the verse Nehemiah 8:8 spoke to me.

Nehemiah 8:8

So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.

Let us keep reading the Bible and sincerely ask God to make Himself known in our lives.



Feelings

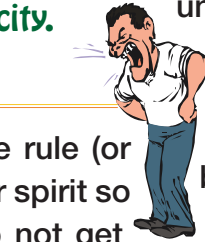
He that is
slow to anger is better
than the mighty;
and he that ruleth his spirit
than he that taketh a city.

Proverbs 16:32



How do we rule (or control) our spirit so that we do not get angry easily?

When we get angry, how can we reduce that anger quickly? First, we must learn to understand our own emotions and responses. That means reflecting on what we are thinking and feeling when we lose control! Oftentimes, people who act out in a rage believe that they are simply doing the "right thing" at that moment - even if they are causing harm to others or themselves. We need to control our emotions instead of letting them control us.



Second, we must realized that our thoughts are linked to our emotions. Some people tell themselves exaggerations or untruths which fan the flames of anger. For example, while waiting for someone who is late, you could think: "He must be doing this on purpose because he disrespects me!" The result: anger. Alternatively, we could think: "I'll find out why he's late. Perhaps the traffic is bad." With a more reasonable approach, we can remain calm. Our thoughts ought to be fair and truthful, rather than distorted. Finally, we must be controlled by the Holy Spirit rather than our selfish desires.



by Mrs Mary Hui

Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Galatians 5:16

History Of The Church

AD

440 - 461 >>>>>
Leo the great

Leo, became bishop of Rome when the empire was disintegrating. He played a key role in the Council of Chalcedon prevented the complete destruction of Rome by first the Huns and then the

Vandals.

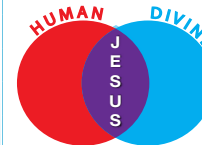
However, he introduced

the belief that the pope, as bishop of Rome, had complete authority over all other bishops and the church.

Incorrect because not stated in the Bible.

450 >>>>>>>
Council at Chalcedon

The church was divided over whether Jesus was fully divine or human. The Council at Chalcedon tried to unite the two sides.



Gregory, the capable administrator of Rome, was elected pope in 590. He increased the power of the pope by

negotiating with invaders, encouraging the care of the soul and feeding the population

supporting missionary work to the Visigoths and the Angles and Saxons

shaping the theology of the Roman church in the Middle Ages

However, Gregory also

believed that relics (fingernails, pieces of clothing etc) of saints and martyrs had power

believed in purgatory as a place of purification

regarded tradition as equal to the Bible

believed Christ's body and blood was sacrificed at every Communion

emphasized good works and praying to the saints.



590 >>>>>>>
Gregory the great

Incorrect because not stated in the Bible.

Around
570



Muhammad, born in Mecca, was a camel driver or merchant before marrying a wealthy widow.



610



While meditating, Muhammad claimed an angel told him to preach monotheism (the belief in only one god rather than many).

622



Faced with opposition in Mecca, he fled to Medina.

630



After his forces took over Mecca, Muhammad was recognized as political and religious leader by all surrounding tribes.

632



Although his death divided the movement into the Sunnis and the Shiites, Islam continued spreading.



Reasons for Islam's rapid spread

- Arabs were experts at desert warfare. The weakened Roman Empire was no match for them.
- The Romans had treated the common people unfairly and taxed them heavily. The new rulers allowed the people to maintain their religion, livelihood and private lives.



Impact on the church

1. The church of North Africa disappeared.
2. Trade and communication between Rome and Constantinople became difficult, widening the gap between Eastern and Western forms of Christianity.
3. Popes from Rome began looking for help from Europe (eg Germany) rather than Constantinople.
4. The crusades were meant to re-take the Holy Land and drive Islam from Jerusalem.



What Muslims believe:

Upright behaviour
will result
in 'salvation'



What Christians believe:



Salvation
through faith
in Jesus

Declaration of faith

'There is no God but Allah and
Muhammad is his prophet'



Jesus is both God
and God's Son –
there is no other God
beside Him

Prayer

Praying 5 times a day
facing Mecca



Prayer is
how we talk to God
– we can do it anytime.

Almsgiving

Giving to those in need



We give money, time,
talents to God because
we are grateful for His
goodness to us

Fasting

During Ramadan -
to demonstrate obedience
and self-discipline



Fasting and prayer
are a way to turn our
eyes away from
the world and to Jesus

Pilgrimage to Mecca

by all who are able,
at least once in their lives
– to promote bonds of Islam



We are to look forward to
our home in heaven and
preach the gospel to
those around us

Spotlight:

SIGNIFICANCE OF COUNCIL OF CHALCEDON ON THE CHURCH

The church's main cities
began to influence theology.

Alexandria, Rome,

emphasized

the divine nature of Jesus

devalued the full humanity of Christ
including His suffering and pain

Antioch and Constantinople

emphasized

the human nature of Jesus

divided life into the sacred things of God
and the secular things of the world

After two consecutive councils
failed to resolve the bitter
disputes between the two
schools of thought, Leo, bishop
of Rome, asked the emperor to
summon a third council. This
took place at Chalcedon in 451
A.D., drawing more church
leaders than at any previous
council. There, Leo's statement
about Christ's nature, was read
and incorporated into what
is now called the
Chalcedonian Definition.

DIVINE

JESUS

HUMAN

CHALCEDONIAN DEFINITION:

Christ is "acknowledged as having 2 natures, without confusion,
without change, without division, without separation...
the characteristic property of each nature being preserved,
and coming together to form one person."

Why was Chalcedon important even though it could not explain how Jesus
could be both God and man?

It was a triumph of sound fundamental doctrine and set the boundaries for
interpretation.

It showed that the gospel message could be preserved, even when
translated into a new language.

Faith of our Fathers

Eusebius

is often referred to as the 'Father of Church History' because he is our best source of knowledge about the first three hundred years of the church. While we do not know of his early life, we do know that he was baptized in Caesarea and spent his early years under the tutelage of Pamphilus, owner of a large library, and founder of a theological school there. During the persecution of Christians from 303 to 313, Pamphilus was martyred and Eusebius imprisoned. It was at this time that he began documenting the history of the Christian church from apostolic times to 324. This became his most famous work, "Ecclesiastical History". Eusebius was honest and objective in his use of the most reliable sources available to him



at the library in Caesarea and the imperial archives. His extensive quoting from the literature of his time ensured their preservation for later scholars. His first-hand accounts of the events of his day provide a clearer picture of the disputes of his time.

From 315 till his death in 340, Eusebius served as bishop of Caesarea and was highly regarded by Emperor Constantine. He was involved in the doctrinal debate regarding the nature of Christ, but sought to mediate between the different viewpoints. God has his purpose in everything – even when we cannot see the way ahead. We need to learn from Eusebius' example to serve God in whatever way we can.

by Ms Zealyn Heng



Seeing God in nature around us

PHYSICS



Waves keep the water of seas and oceans in constant motion. They are created when energy is transferred, from one place to another, through water. This energy usually comes from winds blowing over the water surface. There are also tsunamis - huge waves caused by earthquakes and underwater landslides, and tides caused by the gravitational pull of the moon.

James 1:6 compares a person who doubts God to a wave of the sea. He is easily influenced by

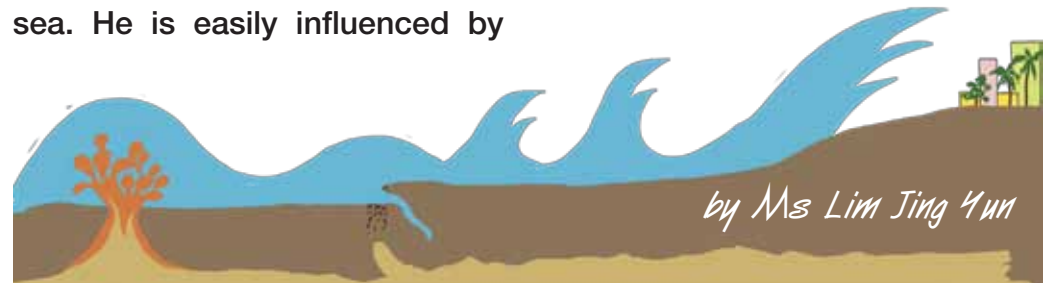
changing circumstances and opinions. He keeps shifting between trusting God to trusting other sources. He will not have peace.

Someone who is not steadfast in trusting God cannot expect to receive anything from God, because he does not honor God or His word.

James 1:6

Let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

The verse tells us that when we ask God for something, we must trust Him and be ready to be guided by Him.



by Ms Lim Jing Yun

Choices

“Oh, poor King David, he’s on the run again, now fleeing from his son!” exclaimed Papa one day in our house. He told us that the king and the people were in the wilderness and suggested that we provide them food and all that they needed. I thought that was a wonderful idea though we might risk the anger of the self-appointed “new king”



Absalom, who could put us to death for helping his

enemy. So, we brought King David a lot of things such as beds, pots and especially food in the wilderness. Do you think we made the right choice to help King David? To find out more, please read 2 Samuel 17:27-28, 19:32,33, and 1 Kings 2:7.

Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby

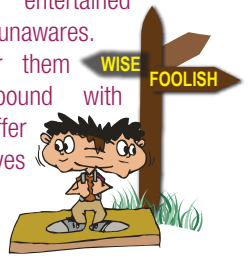


some have entertained angels unawares.

Remember them

that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body.

Hebrews 13:2-3



Own up to your sin

Unscramble the tiles to reveal the answer.

Each tile is used only once.

Use spacing, punctuation and common words to find adjacent tiles.

Some words may be split into two lines.



m	e	w	i	t	c	l	e	p	i	r	i	g	h	r	e	n	a	r	i	n
m	e	r	t	,	t	s	a	t	e	C	r	e	G	o	d	;	a	a	n	
h	i	n	a		O		h	e	a	i	t	n	d	e	w	.				

C	r	e																	